Name: Nilsa Polanco

Date: 04/05/12

Article Number: 2

Course CMP 230

Professor V. Harris M.ED.

Article URL: <http://news.yahoo.com/blacks-insist-im-not-african-american-181257715.html>

**Article Summary:**

The article, Some blacks insist: ‘I’m not African-American’ by Jesse Washington, describes how many black Americans prefer to be simply called black and not African-American. For this group the term ‘African-America’ is not progressive instead it continues to connect them to the U.S. history of slave. This argument has become more pronounce since President Obama took office. After all he is the son of black Kenyan and a white American; he is black, but not ‘African-American.’ This now leaves the question, what is the best way to call black Americans?

For example, Shawn Smith is an accountant in Texas. He does not like the term “African American’ because both of his parents are from Mississippi and North Carolina. He has never learned anything from Africa. All he knows is America, and therefore considers himself just as an American. The same is true for blacks of Caribbean decent. They feel insulted when called African American since they are not from Africa. Some prefer to be called, black-Caribbean American.

**Reflection:** I can personally relate to this article because I come from a mixed race Hispanic background. I am neither black and white. I don’t feel comfortable fully labeling myself singularly as either one. United States is like a salad of mixed races and cultures. I feel that it is time to stop labeling people as black, white, Hispanic, Asian, etc. We are American period.